

The Text-Book Committee and Prescription of Books.

161. *MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (Karunagapalli): In regard to the Text-Books prescribed for use in schools during 1934-35, will the Government be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the function of the Text-Book Committee; and
- (b) whether the Director is competent to recommend, as Text-Books, books not approved by the Text-Book Committee?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (Director of Public Instruction): (a) (i) To take into consideration such books as may be submitted to it by the Director and to advise him in regard to the suitability of the text-books for the several Classes and Forms in recognised schools, for school libraries and for teachers' use; and

(ii) to advise the Education Department as to the steps to be taken for the preparation and publication of new text-books, when necessary.

(b) No.

Prescription of Text-Books from outside the approved list.

169. *MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (Karunagapalli): In regard to the Text-Books prescribed for use in schools during 1934-35, will the Government be pleased to state whether there are not instances in the list of prescribed books for 1934-35, in which the Director has recommended prescription of books from outside the approved list?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (Director of Public Instruction): No.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (Kalkulam I): May I know whether the Arabic text-books prescribed for Mahomedan schools have been approved by the Text-Book Committee?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (Director of Public Instruction): Does the member refer to the Arabic text-books prescribed for the examination classes?

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (Kalkulam I): Yes.

MR. R. M. STATHAM (Director of Public Instruction): Those books have not been approved by the Text-Book Committee.

Prescription of Text-Books in English.

170. *MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (Karunagapalli): In regard to the Text-Books prescribed for use in schools during 1934-35, will the Government be pleased to state whether the Headmasters are given permission to choose any English book out of the approved list?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (Director of Public Instruction): Yes, as laid down in Rule 30 of the Text-Book Committee Rules, dated the 15th December 1933.

Hardships caused by lack of uniformity in the use of Text-Books.

171. *MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (Karunagapalli): In regard to the Text-Books prescribed for use in schools during 1934-35, will the Government be pleased to state what measures the Director has taken